

The British Science Fiction Association Limited

News Bulletin 2

GALACTIC FAIR 1969

Judith Merril Guest of Honour

London, October 1968: OXFORD'S TOP HOTEL will be the venue of the BSFA's Galactic Fair to be held over Easter, 4-6th April 1969.

The Randolph, Beaumont Street, known to all who visit the 'City of Dreaming Spires', is famous for its high standard of comfort and luxury together with service hard to equal in Britain or Europe. The Management is willing and eager to co-operate in making the stay of delegates from over a dozen countries, pleasant and memorable.

SPECIAL FULL-BOARD CONVENTION TARIFF!

(Includes English Breakfast, Morning Coffee,
3-course Lunch, Afternoon Tea, 3-course Dinner).

Single room	£5	5	0
Double room <u>per person</u>	4	15	0
Single w. bath	5	15	0
Double w. bath <u>per person</u>	5	15	0

NORMAL TARIFF available for those not wishing to
take advantage of concessionary rates

Single room	£2	16	0
Double room <u>per person</u>	4	16	0
Single w. bath	3	16	0
Double w. bath <u>per person</u>	4	18	0
Continental b'fast <u>extra</u>		7	6
English b'fast <u>extra</u>		9	6

Children

If sharing parents' room, 12/6 per night for
cot, and 15/- for extra bed.

IMPORTANT !

All bookings MUST be made through the Convention Committee, who have reserved all the available bedrooms. Please fill out the booking form and return as soon as possible. BOOKINGS CAN ONLY BE ACCEPTED FROM THOSE WHO ARE REGISTERED MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION! If you haven't yet registered please enclose the 10/- joining fee with the booking form. (The complete Registration is 25/- i.e. 10/- sent with Booking Form, 15/- to be paid at Registration Desk at Convention).

Alternative accommodation for those wishing to make their own arrangements may be obtained at:

The Old Parsonage, 3 Banbury Road (Rates Single Room 27/6, Double Room 55/-).

The Golden Cross Hotel, Cornmarket Street
(Rates Single Room 42/6, Double Room 85/-).

It has not yet been possible to come to any firm arrangement concerning the use of Halls of Residence, and accommodation in the Colleges should not be relied on.

BANQUET !

As a grand climax to the Convention, a BANQUET will be held on the Sunday evening, featuring the Guest of Honour's speech and the presentation of the British Fantasy Award for 1969.

Those who have opted for the Full Board tariff may have banquet tickets for 5/- ONLY! This amazing concession makes the inclusive terms even more of a bargain. Tickets are available to those not on the inclusive tariff at 25/-.

These tickets must be reserved with your registration form because ample notice has to be given and seating is limited.

THE RANDOLPH HOTEL

Centrally situated opposite the famous Martyrs' Memorial, the Randolph has recently been redecorated and modernised. Passenger lifts serve all floors, all the rooms have telephones and many have private baths.

The Restaurant has been completely restyled and the new Ox-in-the-Cellar grill stays open until mid-night.

A covered garage with space for 80 cars adjoins the Hotel and there is a public car park 100 yards away. Moreover, the Hotel is located approximately 10 minutes' walk from the railway station, and about 3 minutes' walk from the bus terminal.

The main Convention proceedings will take place in the air-conditioned ballroom, which is fully wired for sound, but the Convention Committee has also reserved the Ballroom Foyer, the Worcester Room, the St Johns Suite and other rooms for subsidiary programme items, book displays, Art Show and the projected

EATING OUT IN OXFORD

Within walking distance of the Hotel, the Committee's scouts have located a wide selection of restaurants - for example:

Clarendon, George Street, Oxford (English)
Golden City, 1 Ship Street, Oxford (Chinese)
Golden Lantern, 129 George Street, Oxford (Chinese)
Golden Palace, 21-27 George Street, " "
Kamhong, 33 Queen Street, Oxford "

THE GUEST OF HONOUR

Blazing yet another new trail in the SF world, JUDITH MERRIL has managed to adjust her plans in order to give us the tremendous privilege of entertaining her as the Guest of Honour.

Famous, respected and above all greatly liked for her stimulating and scintillating personality, Miss Merrill will now be the first ever woman GoH at any SF Convention!

You know her as an outstanding anthologist, a capable writer, a poet, a critic and reviewer - come to the Galactic Fair and see her in a new role. We can be sure beyond a doubt that her speech on Sunday evening will be one of the highlights of a memorable week-end.

CONVENTION SPONSORS

We are delighted to take this early opportunity of expressing our gratitude to those publishers of science fiction who have enabled us to announce yet another precedent-shattering breakthrough in the organisation of the Galactic Fair.

BPC PUBLISHING CO LTD: PENGUIN: VICTOR GOLLANCZ:
FABER AND FABER, AND DENNIS DOBSON LTD

have each agreed to sponsor one session of the Convention by covering the basic cost of hire of halls, loudspeaker equipment and suchlike incidentals.

We are enormously obliged to them; their generosity will go a long way to ensure that the 1969 Convention is an outstanding success!

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Thanks to the long experience of Convention-going of such Committee Members as Ted Tubb, Ken Bulmer and John Brunner (the only Englishman to have attended five consecutive World Conventions!) there are far too many ideas buzzing around to list them all here, but we can say confidently that the range and scope of the programme items will be greater than ever before at any British Convention.

Let's just give you a hint of some of the major projects now in hand ...

A COSMIC CARNIVAL will be held on Saturday evening in the main Convention Hall. There will be a plethora of entertainment - not just the traditional costume parade (though that will remain the highlight, and wait till you hear about some of the prizes!) but drinking, dancing, dalliance together, cabaret, competitions, comestibles ... and some notions so new we have not yet had time to think of names for them!

It will be a real swinger of a party, and all Con members are welcome PROVIDED THEY ARE IN COSTUME! It doesn't have to be anything elaborate, though the prizes will obviously go to those who've taken more than a little trouble, but it should be comfortable to wear for several hours. A costume you must have if you want to join in the fun. (Masks, paper hats and carnival favour will be on sale in the Hall to add that final touch!)

The COSMIC CARNIVAL is going to make Convention history. Don't miss it.

AN INTRODUCTORY PARTY on the Friday evening will start proceedings off with a bang! Here again we're breaking new ground - we want this to be the friendliest-ever Convention, and no one who has not previously attended a Con need feel shy about coming along. We're especially going to ask the professional writers, the publishers, the fanzine editors and others whom diffident neofans may want to meet to make themselves available at our Friday night party and get acquainted with the new arrivals.

Now's your chance to meet that Famous Name!

But don't think we're only going to socialise at the Galactic Fair! Consider some of the subjects we're going to 'treat in depth'.

SPECULATIVE FICTION! Hear what editors and publishers have to say about the 'new wave' of our literature - discover why authors are trying to push back the boundaries of SF ever further. Where's it going to lead us? The Galactic Fair is the place to find out!

AUCTIONS! Many people say a Con wouldn't be a Con without an auction, not only because it's potentially profitable for both sellers and bidders, but because of its entertainment value when skilled and witty auctioneers like Con Chairman Ted Tubb take the rostrum.

You can't hold an auction without material, though. What can you let us have? Books, magazines, original MSS, art-work, complete collections - anything containing or dealing with science fiction - and, come to that, whatever else you'd like to dispose of that someone else at the Con might want to buy! We might draw the line at billiard tables and broken fruit-machines - but try us anyway. We can even arrange for goods to be collected if we have to.

Write to Daphne Sewell at the address you'll find on the last page, or ring 01.AMB 0310.

THE MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE is a unique project! We're setting up one room of the Con with our very latest newest technical miracles as though they were on display in a 21st-century museum! We're already assembling a range of exhibits but we'd be pleased to hear from anyone who can help us to make it wider still. What can you arrange the loan of - lasers, computers, material connected with space exploration..? Write or ring Gerry Webb - addresses etc are on last page.

PANELS DISCUSSIONS AND MAJOR SPEECHES will be featured during the Convention. We will cover both the literary and the technical aspects of SF, with authoritative contributions from writers, editors, and publishers.

FILMS will be shown. We are in the process of arranging an illustrated talk on screen SF which will very possibly include material from the Trieste Festivals not generally available in Britain. Watch for further details. And, speaking of that...

SWORD & SORCERY and HORROR enthusiasts will not be overlooked! Under the capable direction of Bram Stokes of 'Vault of Horror' a number of subsidiary programme items for special-interest groups are being developed.

During the Cosmic Carnival a GREAT TOURNEY will be held under the auspices of Grand Marshall Terry Webb. Swords, shields and First Aid will be provided. The bouts will be run on strict rules and, if you have weapons or armour of your own, bring them along. The Tourney, of course, is open only to those who attend the Carnival - and, again that means a costume.

AN ART SHOW will be held. Try your hand at Art, it does not have to be oil or water colour! Why not material, metal, mosaic! Contact Daphne Sewell for details concerning entry, packaging etc.

BABY-SITTING SERVICE may be required by some

delegates - let us know if you want one!

A SLIDE-SHOW especially featuring previous Cons is being arranged; let us know if you can contribute material.

START THINKING

The 'Doc Weir' Award, named in memory of the late Dr A R Weir, is presented each year to a person chosen by the membership of the British Science Fiction Association Limited under a confidential poll.

Ballot forms will be distributed with a future issue of the newsletter. They may be returned by post before the Convention, or handed in personally at the Convention, thus all registered members of the Convention may express a choice.

Choice is unrestricted: each member is asked to nominate the person that he or she would like to see win the Award. A nomination equals a vote, the most-nominated person each year becoming that year's winner.

Past winners have been Peter Mabey, Archie Mercer, Terry Jeeves, Ken Slater, Doreen Parker and (the present holder) Mary Reed.

So, please start thinking of the next name that you want to see on the roster.

.... And we do not have enough space to tell you about everything!

REGISTER NOW!

Hurry! Reserve your accommodation! Send your joining fee of 10/- to the Treasurer! Whether or not you can come, you'll get all our progress reports and a souvenir programme book! (If you do attend the Con, there'll be a charge of 15/- payable at the registration desk).

For overseas members the joining fee is \$1 or its equivalent.

Fill up and return the enclosed booking form NOW!

FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF...

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. JUDITH MERRIL | 2. PHIL ROGERS |
| 3. DAVE KYLE | 4. GARY KLUPFEL |
| 5. GERRY WEBB | 6. DAPHNE SEWELL |
| 7. JEAN MUGGOCH | 8. PAT KEARNEY |
| 9. JOHN NEWMAN | 10. JOAN NEWMAN |
| 11. NORMAN WEEDALL | 12. EDDIE JONES |
| 13. INA SHORROCK | 14. NORMAN SHORROCK |
| 15. BETTY ROSENBLUM | 16. MICHAEL ROSENBLUM |
| 17. HOWARD ROSENBLUM | 18. DIANA ROSENBLUM |
| 19. DOREEN PARKER | 20. RUTH KYLE |
| 21. JOHN ROLES | 22. R JAKE |
| 23. KEITH BRIDGES | 24. TREVER HEARN DEN |
| 25. T WALKER | 26. R WALKER |
| 27. R J M RICKARD | 28. B HILL |
| 29. A G CRUTTENDEN | 30. H H PATTERSON |
| 31. ARCHIE MERCER | 32. BERYL MERCER |
| 33. HEINZ ARENZ | 34. PETER MABEY |
| 35. ALEX EISENSTEIN | 36. KEITH & WENDY FREEMAN |
| 37. TOM SCHLUCK | 38. B MARSHALL |
| 39. ERIC ABBOTT | 40. CHUCK & LYNDA |
| 41. DAVE BRITTON | PARTINGTON |
| 42. LIS NORBURY | 43. GRAHAM HALL |
| 44. KEN CHESLIN | 45. L ROBERTS |
| 47. JIM MARSHALL | 48. JACK WILSON |
| 49. BILL BURNS | 50. ROY GRAY |
| 51. ALAN CHORLEY | 52. A G BOAK |
| 53. JOHN R CAMPBELL | 54. JULIA STONE |
| 55. TOM HOLT | 57. ALAN DAY |
| 58. PETER DAY | 59. IRVINE BOOTH ROYD |
| 60. J TREVER PAYNE | 61. GEORGE LOCK |

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|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 62. B HAMPTON | 63. FRANK ARNOLD |
| 64. CHARLES PLATT | 65. RICHARD GRAHAM |
| 66. D TURNER | 67. M GIBSON |
| 68. MARTIN PITT | 69. PETE WESTON |
| 70. TONY UNDERWOOD | 71. BRAM STOKES |
| 72. MANFRED KAGE | 73. MARY REED |
| 74. ROSEMARY ECCLES | 75. TED BALL |
| 76. B MACE | 77. TED TUBB |
| 78. DAVE DWICK | 79. JAMES CAWTHORN |
| 80. BRYAN E BONER | 81. J LINWOOD |
| 82. PETER ROBERTS | 83. N R HASLOCK |
| 84. G PICKERSGILL | 85. JOHN PARKER |
| 86. MR GARNETT | 87. EDMUND CRISPIN |
| 88. MARION LINWOOD | 89. ROY KETTLE |
| 90. MISS D M BAILEY | 91. CHARLES WINSTONE |
| 92. MOLLY AULER | 93. BARBARA MAYER-OHRT |
| 94. MARIO BOSNYAK | 95. HANS-WERNER HEINRICHS |
| 96. DAVID MASSON | 97. KEITH OTTER |
| 98. E R JAMES | 99. J CHAPMAN |
| 100. ETHEL LINDSAY | 101. ELLA PARKER |
| 102. B A ROLLS | 102. G COUPE |
| 103. LUIS VIGIL | 104. PAUL VAN OVEN |
| 105. GERIT VAN OVEN | 106. G COUPE |
| 107. KEN BULMER | 108. N W PONTIN |
| 109. P A JONES | 110. EDMUND MESKYS |
| 111. GERRY LAPIDUS | 112. ANDREW PORTER |
| 113. GREGG PISKERSGILL | 114. VIC HALLETT |

** this is an unlucky number to stop on,
so please, won't you fill in your booking
forms.

You will all have noticed the omission of No.46 on the list of registrations and this is unfortunately due to the death of Ken McIntyre. Ken was a great Con-goer, well liked and respected and he will be sadly missed.

QUARK IS COMING!

At the time of writing we cannot be certain whether or not this great artist will appear in person but it is certain that some of his work will be on display, namely, 'Transpadane' of his introspective period, the 'Nuptial Nuances' of his middle era, and the 'Famous Creation' of his most recent and contraversial works.

Quark, while not too well known beyond his own immediate circle of influence has left his impression on the underground and the avant garde set.

Spanning time measured in decades, he was the first to insist that art is a fluid medium and the material of any fluid medium could therefore be looked at in terms of art.

His 'Fountain for Form', which mysteriously vanished from his studio after only one brief showing, is now the material of legend as is the man himself.

Art lovers would be well advised not to miss this unique opportunity.

Like Picasso, but without Picasso's fame, Quark is a genius whose first duty is to himself. As he told two offensive reporters from 'Time' magazine, "I feel therefore I am".

Only those with an intimate knowledge of Quark's peculiar brand of humour will grasp the subtlety behind that enigmatic statement.

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